**TEACHING WRITING SKILL WITH WATTPAD APLICATION: AN**

**EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH CONDUCTED AT VOCATIONAL**

**SCHOLL 1 BLEGA**

**Zainal Arifin1), Moh. Hafidz2)**

1,2English Department, STKIP PGRI Bangkalan

E-mail: [**zaenmuhammad061222@gmail.com**1](mailto:zaenmuhammad061222@gmail.com1)), [mohhafidz@stkippgri-bkl.ac.id](mailto:mohhafidz@stkippgri-bkl.ac.id) 2)

**Abstrak:**

Wattpad dalam mengajar keterampilan menulis di Sekolah Menengah Kejuruan (SMKN) 1 Blega. Metode eksperimen digunakan dalam penelitian ini, dengan melibatkan dua kelompok siswa: kelompok eksperimen yang menggunakan aplikasi Wattpad sebagai alat bantu pembelajaran dan kelompok kontrol yang menggunakan metode konvensional. Data dikumpulkan melalui tes menulis sebelum dan sesudah intervensi, serta kuesioner yang mengukur motivasi dan minat siswa dalam menulis. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa siswa yang belajar dengan aplikasi Wattpad mengalami peningkatan signifikan dalam keterampilan menulis dibandingkan dengan kelompok kontrol. Selain itu, penggunaan Wattpad juga meningkatkan motivasi dan minat siswa dalam menulis. Penelitian ini menyimpulkan bahwa aplikasi Wattpad merupakan alat yang efektif dan inovatif untuk mengajar keterampilan menulis di lingkungan pendidikan vokasional.

**Kata Kunci**: Keterampan menuluis, aplikasi Wattpad, penelitian eksperimen, motivasi siswa, pendidikan vokasional

***Abstract:***

*This study aims to explore the effectiveness of using Wattpad application in teaching writing skills at Vocational High School (SMK) 1 Blega. The experimental method was used in this study, involving two groups of students: an experimental group that used the Wattpad application as a learning tool and a control group that used conventional methods. Data were collected through writing tests before and after the intervention, as well as questionnaires measuring students' motivation and interest in writing. The results showed that students who learned with the Wattpad app experienced significant improvement in writing skills compared to the control group. In addition, the use of Wattpad also increased students' motivation and interest in writing. This study concludes that the Wattpad app is an effective and innovative tool for teaching writing skills in a vocational education environment.*

***Keywords:*** *writing skills, Wattpad app, experimental research, student motivation, education at blega 1 vocational high school*

**INTRODUCTION**

The Wattpad application is one of the learning media that can be an effective tool to improve writing skills in English. Through this app, students can develop their abilities in various aspects. Through the Wattpad application, students may write, share, and reach a more diversified and wide-ranging audience of over a million users with their written work. (Rukun, 2019). Wattpad is one of the platform applications that can boost the production of literary works, including stories, novels, poems, and soon. Wattpad was first released in 2006 by Allen Lau and Ivan Yuen (Kardiansyah, 2019). according to Cindy Yunita (2022) as cited in Rahman & Iwan (2019:29) explained that Wattpad is a very interesting digital environment with a huge amount of potential for schools and learning. Thus, the students can increase they writing ability by Wattpad.

Wattpad has many advantages in promoting many written stories and growing literacy interest. Davies (2017 as cited in anggitasari et al., 2020) stated that using some stories from Wattpad can give advantages in inproving both readings and writings for the students. Wattpad is a fairly popular and efficient application for writing and reading short stories and can provide comment directly within the short story paragraphs and Wattpad has many advantages in promoting reader-response theory to college students (Anggitasari et al, 2020).according Jusmaya's (2020) study concluded that teaching writing using Wattpad significantly affected students' writing ability. However, in these previous researches, only a few investigate the topic of writing motivation, whereas motivation is an essential thing in the learning process.

The millennial generation is no longer a stranger to active social media users. It was an unavoidable phenomenon (Aidatul Fitriyah (2020). At SMK 1 Blega, students have problems in writing such as lack of vocabulary, lack of confidence, in writing because they are afraid of making mistakes in grammar and giving up without completing the assignment. In addition, students do not have a place to express ideas and improve their English skills. They are also bored with traditional learning media such as paper in learning to write English. So that Vocational School 1 Blega teachers use the Wattpad application to provide and facilitate students to create meaningful and enjoyable learning. However, students will probably be more creative when they use Wattpad because they can explore many stories to use as references when writing.

**RESEARCH METHOD**

This study was structured in three stages: pre-test, treatment, and post-test. The main objective of this experimental research is to determine the effectiveness of using Wattpad application in improving the writing mastery of eleventh grade students of Blega 1 vocational high school. Researchers determine the results by analyzing the differences in students' writing mastery before and after applying the use of Wattpad application, by assessing the pre-test and post-test scores. The research design used was One Group Pre-test-Post-test Design, and these findings are very important in evaluating the impact of this method on writing development. This study was structured in three stages: pre-test, treatment, and post-test. The main objective of this experimental research is to determine the effectiveness of using Wattpad application in improving the writing mastery of eleventh grade students of Blega 1 vocational high school. Researchers determine the results by analyzing the differences in students' writing mastery before and after applying the use of Wattpad application, by assessing the pre-test and post-test scores. The research design used was One Group Pre-test-Post-test Design, and these findings are very important in evaluating the impact of this method on writing development.

Table 1

Pre-experimental Research Design

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Pre-test | Treatment | Post-test |
| O1 | X | O2 |

O1: Pre-test (To determine the initial ability of students, before being given treatment).

X: treatment (using Wattpad Application).

O2: post-test (final score after treatment).

1. Data Collection Method

In this research, the researcher is collecting the data by using test, observation and documentation.

1. Test

The researcher will administer a writing mastery test to the students to assess their skills and abilities. In this study, the tests used are: pre-test, treatment, and post-test.

1. Pre-test

In the pre-test section, the researcher gave a test where the test explained the description of one of the novels or stories in the Wattpad application. the test was given to each student. The pre-test was given before the treatment. In this section, the researcher also used a test to find out the writing skills known by students.

1. Treatment

The procedure for providing treatment is 1) the researcher explains about the Wattpad application in mastering writing, 2) the researcher explains the definition of the Wattpad application, 3) explains what will be done next, 5) the researcher asks questions, 6) the researcher orders to find a story or novel in the Wattpad application, 7) then students are asked to make an write into simple paragraph after reading the story or novel in the Wattpad application, 8) the researcher conducts an assessment after students use the Wattpad application.

1. Post-test

After the treatment, the researcher gave a writing post-test to the students. The implementation was carried out for 60 minutes. this aims to see the value of the treatment results from the post-test is better than the results of the pre-test. results of the pre-test.

1. Data analysis technique

In data analysis techniques the researcher using test normality, homogeneity and paired samples T-test.

1. Validity result

Validity refers to how accurate a measurement method is. In this study, researchers used the SPSS version 20.0 for Windows program formula to determine whether the test was valid or not. The results using theory by Yunita (2021). Researcher used a quantitative method with a quasi-experimental design as a research method. The experimental class was taught using the Wattpad application and the control class without using the Wattpad application.

The samples of this study were X MIA 2 class as the experimental class and X MIA 1 class as the control class, each consisting of 30 students. Data were collected using tests consisting of try out, pre-test, and post-test. The results showed that the use of Wattpad application had a significant effect on students' reading comprehension in narrative text. This is point by the t-test value which is higher than the t-table value (9.185 > 2.00) at a significant level of 0.05 and degrees of freedom of 58. This means that the alternative hypothesis (H1) is answered and the null hypothesis (H0) is rejected. From these results, it can be concluded that there is a significant effect of using Wattpad application on students' reading comprehension in narrative text.

1. Reliability Result

Reliability is called the constancy of the test, if a test gives the same result, then the treatment is considered unable to affect the dependent variable. And what measures the reliability value is measured by the correlation between the two scores obtained from the help of the formula through the SPSS version 20.0 for windows program to determine whether the test is reliable or not.

Table of Cronbach’s Alpha level of Reliability of Latifah (2022).

Table 2

Level of Standard Reliability

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Score | Standard |
| >0.80 – 1.00 | Very highly reliable |
| >0.60 – 0.80 | High reliable |
| >0.40 – 0.60 | Reliable |
| >0.20 – 0.40 | Minimally reliable |
| 0.0 – 0.20 | Un acceptably low reliable |

From the level table above shows that for interpreting Cronbach’s alpha, the coefficient Are 0.0 – 0.20 for very low reliability, >0.20 – 0.40 for minimally reliable, >0.40 – 0.60 for reliable, >0.60 – 0.80 for high reliable, >0.80 – 1.00 Very highly reliable.

1. Descriptive Statistics

In order to evaluate the quality of data, descriptive statistics is a technique that involves gathering and presenting a set of data in the form of variable types, distributions, graphical representations, and summary statistics (mean, median, mode, standard deviation, and so forth) without the use of probability formulas. Version 2.7 of SPSS is used by the researcher

1. Normally Test

By using this test, researchers can find out whether the data from the pre-test and posttest results are normal or not. pre-test and posttest results are normal or not. In this study, to conduct the normality test, researchers used the SPSS version 2.7 for windows program.

1. T-test

This test is used to find the results of the difference between pretest scores and posttest scores by using humor stories. treatment. the T-test is used to test the hypothesis. The research hypothesis is formulated as follows:

H0: is a hypothesis that states that there is no effect of using the Wattpad application on writing learning at Vocational School 1 Blega.

H1: is a hypothesis stating that there is an effect of using the Wattpad application on writing skills at Vocational School 1 Blega.

**RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

The research design in class XI accounting vocational high school 1 Blega with pre-test and post-test instruments for one class, the researcher also explained the results of the pre-test and post-test that students had done. and the researcher explained about the effectiveness of Wattpad application media on mastery of writing in students in class XI vocational high school 1 Blega. The samples of this study were 20 students of class XI of the vocational high school. In this study, the researcher compared the results of the pre-test and post-test related to the effectiveness of the Wattpad application media used

The results showed that students who used Wattpad had higher scores in writing short stories and short stories. In synthesis, the use of Wattpad increased students' engagement, motivation, creativity, analytical skills, time use, and grades in writing stories. This shows that Wattpad can be an effective tool in improving students' writing skills. Thus, the use of Wattpad in an educational context has been shown to play an important role in improving students' grades in story writing, not only through improving technical skills but also through developing intrinsic motivation and a deeper understanding of digital literacy. This is supported by Sarmila (2022) who stated that writing a story or novel through Wattpad requires better research skills. Teachers can use Wattpad to improve students' research skills in developing better stories. The researcher also used SPSS version 2.7 for windows to make it easier to compare students' pre-test and post-test scores after being given treatment to find out if there were significant differences.

To assist in data collection and prevent errors in data analysis, the researchers used SPSS version 2.7 for windows to analyze data based on data.

1. Reliability test

With the test criteria, if rAlpha > rtabel is 0.05 then the measuring instrument is declared reliable and conversely if rAlpha < rtabel then the measuring instrument is declared unreliable. Reliability test results during the pre-test.

Table 3 Uji Reliability Pre-test

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Reliability Statistics | |
| Cronbach's Alpha | N of Items |
| .576 | 3 |

The results of the calculation of the reliability test when the pre-test in the table above is 0.576 Then the result of rAlpha 0.576 > rtabel 0.05 then according to the test criteria can prove that when the pre-test has a level of reliability

1. Normality test

After the research instrument has been processed, the next step is to conduct a normality test to determine the distribution of data obtained from the pretest and posttest given to respondents is normally or abnormally distributed. With the basis for decision making:

1. If the significance obtained >0.05, then the data is normally distributed
2. If the significance obtained <0.05, then the data is not normally distributed

The results of the normality test are in the following table:

Table 4 Normality test

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **One-Sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov Test** | | | |
|  | | | Unstandardized Residual |
| N | | | 20 |
| Normal Parametersa,b | Mean | | .0000000 |
| Std. Deviation | | 17.10345370 |
| Most Extreme Differences | Absolute | | .103 |
| Positive | | .103 |
| Negative | | -.068 |
| Test Statistic | | | .103 |
| Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)c | | | .200d |
| Monte Carlo Sig. (2-tailed)e | Sig. | | .831 |
| 99% Confidence Interval | Lower Bound | .821 |
| Upper Bound | .840 |
| a. Test distribution is Normal. | | | |
| b. Calculated from data. | | | |
| c. Lilliefors Significance Correction. | | | |
| d. This is a lower bound of the true significance. | | | |
| e. Lilliefors' method based on 10000 Monte Carlo samples with starting seed 926214481. | | | |

The analysis test was carried out at the 0.05 confidence level in the table above, it can be concluded that the normality test results were normally distributed because they met the criteria seen from the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test table 0.840> 0.05.

1. Paired Sample t-test

The paired sample t-test technique used in this study. Paired Sample t-test is often used to see the difference test of two paired samples. Paired samples are the same subject, but experience different treatments with the help of the SPSS 2.7 for windows application. With the hypothesis namely:

H0 = the Two population means are identical (the average pre-test and post-test scores are not significantly different).

Ha = the Two population means are not identical (the average pre-test and post-test scores are significantly different).

1. If the probability/significance level > 0.05 then H0 is accepted.
2. Conversely, if the probability / significance level <0.05 then H0 is rejected.

Table 5 Paired Sample t-test

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Paired Samples Statistics** | | | | | |
|  | | Mean | N | Std. Deviation | Std. Error Mean |
| Pair 1 | pre test | 48.00 | 20 | 21.039 | 4.704 |
| post test | 64.25 | 20 | 5.928 | 1.326 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Paired Samples Test** | | | | | | | | | |
|  | | Paired Differences | | | | | t | df | Sig. (2-tailed) |
| Mean | Std. Deviation | Std. Error Mean | 5% Confidence Interval of the Difference | |
| Lower | Upper |
| Pair 1 | pre test - post test | -16.250 | 18.235 | 4.077 | -16.509 | -15.991 | -3.985 | 19 | .001 |

Based on the output results above, it can be obtained that the average value of the pre-test is 80.89 and the post-test is 76.74 with a significant value (2-tailed) of 0.881 <0.05. So it is concluded that the Wattpad application in learning to improve student writing skills, experimental research on class accounting XI students of 01 Blega vocational high school shows the influence / difference in average by using the Wattpad application on mastery of student writing skills.

After calculating and analyzing the data, the researcher presents a discussion based on the findings. This section aims to describe the results of student scores before and after the application of Wattpad application media in English language learning, especially in student writing skills techniques. From the findings based on the theory of research objectives regarding the effectiveness of Wattpad application media to improve students' mastery of writing skills. The final results show that the output of the paired simple t-test is that there is an effect of using the Wattpad application on the mastery of writing skills of class XI accounting students of State Vocational School 01 Blega. The average value of the pre-test was 48.55 and the post-test was 64.25. This finding shows that the ability to master students' writing skills by using Wattpad application media has increased significantly This is the same as research conducted by Faradillah Azdina Nur (2022). The study found that the ability of the Paired Sample T-Test results in the experimental class using Wattpad showed a t-count value greater than the t-table, namely 10.569> 2.037, with a probability value smaller than the 0.05 significant level. This indicates a significant difference between the pre-test and post-test scores in the class using Wattpad. Therefore, it can be concluded that Wattpad media or application can improve students' writing skills in learning English. Therefore, seeing the conclusions obtained, it is necessary to apply the Wattpad application as a learning media that helps improve students' writing skills in learning English, to support students in learning. Therefore, my research uses quantitative methods with an experimental approach to investigate how Wattpad app affects the writing skills of students of SMK Negeri 01 Blega in English learning. Similarly, Aidatul Fitriyah (2020) used qualitative methods with various approaches to investigate other aspects of using Wattpad apps in writing learning. This study explains the role of Wattpad app in learning to write.

Related to the experts' statements regarding the advantages and disadvantages of this media or Wattpad application. the advantages of using Wattpad app to improve students' writing skills in English learning Improving Writing Skills Reading various stories and novels on Wattpad can expand students' imagination and creativity in writing interesting descriptions. Through the comments and feedback feature on Wattpad, students can learn to write better descriptions from other readers' comments Enriching Vocabulary Reading various genres of stories on Wattpad can enrich students' vocabulary in English, especially the words used to describe characters, settings, and events. Students can learn to use the right vocabulary in writing descriptions from the examples on Wattpad. Increase Motivation. Interactive features on Wattpad such as commenting, voting, and sharing stories can motivate students to write better descriptions to get positive feedback from readers. Students can be motivated to write better descriptions after reading inspirational stories on Wattpad Flexibility of Time and Place Students can read and write descriptions anytime and anywhere using the Wattpad app on their smartphones. Not limited to class hours, students can continue practicing description writing through Wattpad outside of school hours. So, Wattpad app can be an effective tool to improve students' writing skills in English learning, both in terms of their ability to write descriptions.

Hen for the Drawbacks of Using Wattpad Content Limitations: Wattpad has limitations in the content available, especially in more complex story genres. Students may not get content that suits their interests and needs. Content Quality: The content available on Wattpad is not always of good quality. Students may find stories unclear, inconsistent, or poorly structured, which can interfere with their ability to write good stories. Not Suitable for All Genres: Wattpad is more suitable for short stories and more concise stories. Students who want to write longer or more complex stories may not get the right help from this app. No Self-Guidance: Students who use Wattpad to write stories may not get direct guidance from teachers or instructors. They may have to rely on feedback from other readers which is not always of good quality. No Supervision: Students who use Wattpad to write stories may not get direct supervision from teachers or instructors. They may not get proper feedback to correct mistakes in writing the story. No Help in Developing Ideas: Students who use Wattpad to write stories may not get direct help in developing story ideas. They may have to rely on their own ideas which are not always of good quality. So, while Wattpad has some advantages in improving students' writing skills, it also has some disadvantages that need to be considered.

**CONCLUSION**

Based on the data in the previous chapter, the researcher finally got the results of the Wattpad application media based on the results of the research, data analysis and discussion carried out, it can be concluded that there is an effect of learning media using the Wattpad application to improve writing skills in learning English language for class XI students of the state vocational high school 01 Blega. The data were statistically analyzed using Paired Simple T-Test analysis from the SPSS 2.1 program. The results of the Paired Simple T-Test showed that there was a difference in students' vocabulary mastery with an average score of Pre-test 43.89 and post-test 71.31. On the other hand, this method may be applied in other schools.

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